CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. A network for use over electrical power supply lines, the network comprising:

a server system for generating compressed video data and for transmitting the compressed video data over a power bus;

a power bus connected to said server system for receiving the compressed video data; and

at least one terminal coupled to said power bus for receiving compressed video data, decompressing the video data and displaying the video data on a local monitor, said at least one terminal further including an input device for receiving input signals from a user and for compressing the input signals as compressed input data and transmitting the compressed input data over the power bus,

wherein the power bus receives the compressed input data and transmits said compressed input data to said server system, said server system decompressing said input data and generating compressed video data in response to the input signals.

2. The network according to claim 1, wherein said server comprises:

a coder for generating the compressed video data as video change data; and

a first modem, for generating a first channel of compressed video data on the power bus.

3. The network according to claim 2, wherein said at least one terminal further comprises:

a second modem, for receiving the first channel of compressed video data from the power bus, and

a decoder for generating video data from the video change data received from the first channel of compressed video data.

4. The network according to claim 3, wherein said at least one terminal further comprises:

a coder for generating the compressed input data from the user input signals;

wherein said second modem in the at least one terminal generates a second channel of compressed input data on the power bus.

5. The network according to claim 4, wherein said first modem in said server receives the second channel of compressed input data from the power bus, and

wherein said server further comprises a decoder for generating input signals from the compressed input data from the second channel of compressed input data.

6. The network of claim 5, wherein said first channel is substantially larger in bandwidth than said second channel.

7. The network of claim 6, wherein said second channel comprises a keyboard compressed data channel and a mouse compressed data channel, and wherein said user input signals comprise mouse and keyboard inputs.

8. A client terminal for used in a network coupled over electrical power supply lines, the network including a server system for generating compressed video data and for transmitting the compressed video data over a power bus and a power bus connected to said server system for receiving the compressed video data, said client terminal comprising:

at least one terminal coupled to said power bus for receiving compressed video data, decompressing the video data and displaying the video data on a local monitor, said at least one terminal further including an input device for receiving input signals from a user and for compressing the input signals as compressed input data and transmitting the compressed input data over the power bus,

wherein the power bus receives the compressed input data and transmits said compressed input data to said server system, said server system decompressing said input data and generating compressed video data in response to the input signals.

9. The client terminal according to claim 8, wherein the server includes a coder for generating the compressed video data as video change data and a first modem, for generating a first channel of compressed video data on the power bus, the client terminal further comprising:

a second modem, for receiving the first channel of compressed video data from the power bus, and

a decoder for generating video data from the video change data received from the first channel of compressed video data.

10. The client terminal according to claim 9, wherein said at least one terminal further comprises:

a coder for generating the compressed input data from the user input signals,

wherein said second modem generates a second channel of compressed input data on the power bus, and

wherein the first modem in the server receives the second channel of compressed input data from the power bus, the server further including a decoder for generating input signals from the compressed input data from the second channel of compressed input data.

11. The client terminal of claim 10, wherein said first channel is substantially larger in bandwidth than said second channel.

12. The client terminal of claim 11, wherein said second channel comprises a keyboard compressed data channel and a mouse compressed data channel, and wherein said user input signals comprise mouse and keyboard inputs.

13. A server for use with a network coupled over electrical power supply lines, the network including a power bus connected to the server for receiving and transmitting data, and at least one terminal coupled to the power bus for receiving and compressed video data from the power bus, decompressing the video data and displaying the video data on a local monitor, the at least one terminal further including an input device for receiving input signals from a user and for compressing the input signals as compressed input data and transmitting the compressed input data over the power bus, said server comprising:

a server system for generating compressed video data and for transmitting the compressed video data over the power bus;

wherein the power bus receives the compressed input data and transmits said compressed input data to said server system, said server system decompressing said input data and generating compressed video data in response to the input signals.

14. The server according to claim 13, wherein said server further comprises:

a coder for generating the compressed video data as video change data; and

a first modem, for generating a first channel of compressed video data on the power bus,

wherein the at least one terminal further comprises a second modem, for receiving the first channel of compressed video data from the power bus, and a decoder for generating video data from the video change data received from the first channel of compressed video data.

15. The server according to claim 14, wherein the at least one terminal further comprises a coder for generating the compressed input data from the user input signals, and the second modem generates a second channel of compressed input data on the power bus, and the first modem receives the second channel of compressed input data from the power bus, said server further comprising:

a decoder for generating input signals from the compressed input data from the second channel of compressed input data.

16. The server of claim 15, wherein said first channel is substantially larger in bandwidth than said second channel.

17. The server of claim 16, wherein said second channel comprises a keyboard compressed data channel and a mouse compressed

data channel, and wherein said user input signals comprise mouse and keyboard inputs.